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question of photosynthesis *in vitro*, and again with negative results.[27] He repeated MACCHIATI'S experiments (following his directions *in litt.*), and tried also those of MOLISCH, which lent faint support to MACCHIATI'S conclusions. The gas disengaged seems due only to bacterial infection and when obtained at all does not conform in amount to that demanded by theory. This accumulation of negative results makes exceedingly doubtful the claims of FRIEDEL and MACCHIATI.—C. R. B.

Measuring transpiration.— CANNON describes[28] a method of studying the rate of transpiration upon plants in place, which he calls the polymeter method, because LAMBRECHT'S portable polymeter, a combined hygrometer and thermometer is used to ascertain the increase in humidity of the atmosphere around the experimental plant when enclosed in a bell jar. Certain defects in the method are noted, but the most important one, that it itself produces a variable decrease in transpiration, is not mentioned.— C. R. B.

Diastase.— KLEEMANN, finding the known methods of determining the course of diastase formation not sufficiently accurate, proposes a new, and, as he claims, more satisfactory one.[29] Using it he has determined that the amount of diastase formed depends, on the one hand, upon the water content of the barley, and on the other, upon how the water is supplied and taken up, and that the loss by respiration is greater the greater the water content.— C. R. B.

The sporophyte of mosses.—TRUE finds[30] that the nodding of the capsusel of Mnium, and probably of Funaria also, is due to geotropic stimulation, while the direction of illumination determines the plane of the curve in the seta, the apex of the capsule sometimes curving toward and sometimes away from the incident light. The calyptra affords important protection to the growing sporophyte from mechanical injury and desiccation.—C. R. B.

Chloroform a stimulant.— So Miss Latham[31] finds it in small quantities to Sterigmatocystis, especially at the time of germination, while larger quantities are inimical or fatal. Less acid formation and less sugar consumption under the stimulus indicate greater metabolic economy.—C. R. B.

Chromosome reduction.—A useful collective review of the recent literature on this subject is presented by KÖRNICKE in Bot. Zeit. **63**[2]: 289–307. 1905.—C. R. B.

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[27] BERNARD, C., Sur l'assimilation chlorophyllienne. Beihefte Bot. Centralbl. **19**[1]: 59–67. 1905.

[28] CANNON, W. A., A new method of measuring the transpiration of plants in place. Bull. Torr. Bot. Club **32**: 515–529. 1905.

[29] KLEEMANN, A., Untersuchungen über Malzdiastase. Landw. Versuchsstat. **63**: 93–134. 1905.

[30] TRUE, R. H., Notes on the physiology of the sporophyte of Funaria and Mnium. Beihefte Bot. Centralbl. **19**[1]: 34–44. 1905.

[31] LATHAM, M. E., Stimulation of Sterigmatocystis by chloroform. Bull. Torr. Bot. Club **32**: 337–357. 1905.